I hereby certify that this correspondence is being hand delivered to: Customer Window, MS Non-Fee Amendment, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, 2011 South Clark Place, Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03, Arlington, Virginia 22202, on the date shown below.

Docket No.: 325772026410

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Junji MACHIDA et al.

Application No.: 10/734,143

[Divisional of 09/924,494 filed August 9, 2001]

Filed: December 15, 2003

Art Unit: N/A

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: DEVELOPING DEVICE AND IMAGE

FORMING APPARATUS

SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Customer Window, MS Non-Fee Amendment U.S. Patent and Trademark Office 2011 South Clark Place Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03 Arlington, Virginia 22202

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In addition to the Preliminary Amendment filed with the application on December 15, 2003 and prior to examination on the merits, Applicant respectfully requests entry on this Supplemental Preliminary Amendment for the above-captioned patent application.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.